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APP # 700121

#### **A. Statement of Activity or Product**

The Rand Mountain Management Area (RMMA) has been a popular area for recreation since the 1960's. After the listing of the desert tortoise, the BLM developed the Rand Mountains-Fremont Valley Management Plan to evaluate the complex issues of the area and implement plausible solutions. With the Rand Mountains being classified as Category 1 desert tortoise habitat, the West Mojave Plan (January 2005) stipulated that "those desiring to use vehicles in the Rand Mountains would be required to obtain permits prior to entering the management area...to obtain a use permit, visitors must complete a short educational orientation program and could then purchase a permit". The educational program will include information on the RMMA designated route network and recreational opportunities, restoration areas and habitat values, and vehicle use safety. The goal of this program is to increase compliance with the rules and regulations pertaining to this sensitive management area. Given the goal of increasing compliance, the content of the educational program would focus on staying on the trail.

On November 1st, 2008 the BLM Ridgecrest Field Office implemented Phase 1 of the Rand Mountains Management Area Education and Permit Program. The primary focus of this phase is on outreach and education, so currently the permits are free of charge. For the last five months, the BLM with help from the Student Conservation Association, Friends of Jawbone, and the California City Police has amassed on Holiday weekends to conduct permit outreach in the Rand Mountains area. Users are introduced to the new permit system, given a short narrative on the purpose and requirements and finally given their own permit to fill out if they wish. Phase II is supposed to take effect October, 2009 and requires all vehicle users in the RMMA to complete a short education program and purchase a permit.

#### **B. Relation of Proposed Project to OHV Recreation**

Without this educational permit program, the Rand Mountains Management Area (RMMA) could be closed to off highway vehicle use as designated by the West Mojave Plan Amendment because of its habitat status. The hope is that with this education program, the number of users that stay on the designated routes will increase, therefore reducing tortoise and habitat related damage. The permit, which is required to be on their person when inside of the RMMA, includes a user map of the area which is easy to follow with color coded routes to show level of difficulty/vehicle type. Part of this project area has been closed to OHVs since 2002. With the implementation of Phase I of the permit program, two corridors were re-opened in this closed area, with the ultimate goal, being to re-open the rest of the routes. This is contingent on the success of the program, of course.

#### **C. Identification of Needs**

While this project is still being evaluated for what might work the best, there have been some main components agreed upon. We will allow users to review the educational material online via a computer or using a printed course booklet. Both options would utilize the same course content. All options would incorporate a brief, multiple choice quiz to further instill the key message of the educational program. Visitors who successfully complete the quiz can then purchase a permit. The permits will come with an armband, so that the permit can be visible to passing law enforcement and easily accessible to the user. The permit also includes a map with a list of designated routes, and a summary of key rules and regulations.

The major needs of the project lie with the implementation of Phase II which is supposed to take effect October, 2009. Because we hope to allow users to review the educational material online, internet access and a computer is needed in all of the BLM provided locations. We would also need the capability to create a website specifically for this permit program. The specific needs of this project vary from staff expenditure to the cost of web site design and internet access.

#### **D. Location of Training Services**

Locations include Jawbone Station and the Ridgecrest Field Office. Other possible locations could come to fruition in the future.

#### **E. OHV Safety, Environmental Responsibility, and Respect Private Property**

There will be required course study material which incorporates all of the above components and a quiz with questions directly relating to each of these components.

By emphasizing staying on the trail, the education program can address safety (i.e. dangerous mine shafts, arsenic remediation), sensitive restoration areas, habitat values (i.e. tortoise), and recreational opportunities (including the issues of the tri-city communities of Randsburg, Red Mountain and Johannesburg). The permit itself has information on the back of it such as: what to do in an emergency, mine safety, the designated route network, threats to the Desert Tortoise and other species of concern, and the RMMA rules and regulations.

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**1 Optional Project-Specific Application Documents**

Attachments:

[Rand Mountains Management Area Permit EA](#)

**2 Optional Project-specific Maps**

Attachments:

[Rand Mountain Mangt. Area Map](#)

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009  
 Agency: BLM - Ridgecrest Field Office  
 Application: Education & Safety

6/2/2009

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:		Version # _____	APP # _____
<b>APPLICANT NAME :</b>	BLM - Ridgecrest Field Office		
<b>PROJECT TITLE :</b>	Education & Safety	<b>PROJECT NUMBER (Division use only) :</b>	
<b>PROJECT TYPE :</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition <input type="checkbox"/> Development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education & Safety <input type="checkbox"/> Ground Operations <input type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration		
<b>PROJECT DESCRIPTION :</b>	<p>The Rand Mountain Management Area (RMMA) has been a popular area for recreation since the 1960's. After the listing of the desert tortoise, the BLM developed the Rand Mountains-Fremont Valley Management Plan to evaluate the complex issues of the area and implement plausible solutions. With the Rand Mountains being classified as Category 1 desert tortoise habitat, the West Mojave Plan (January 2005) stipulated that "those desiring to use vehicles in the Rand Mountains would be required to obtain permits prior to entering the management area...to obtain a use permit, visitors must complete a short educational orientation program and could then purchase a permit". The educational program will include information on the RMMA designated route network and recreational opportunities, restoration areas and habitat values, and vehicle use safety. The goal of this program is to increase compliance with the rules and regulations pertaining to this sensitive management area. Given the goal of increasing compliance, the content of the educational program would focus on staying on the trail.</p> <p>On November 1st, 2008 the BLM Ridgecrest Field Office implemented Phase 1 of the Rand Mountains Management Area Education and Permit Program. The primary focus of this phase is on outreach and education, so currently the permits are free of charge. For the last five months, the BLM with help from the Student Conservation Association, Friends of Jawbone, and the California City Police has amassed on Holiday weekends to conduct permit outreach in the Rand Mountains area. Users are introduced to the new permit system, given a short narrative on the purpose and requirements and finally given their own permit to fill out if they wish. Phase II is supposed to take effect October, 2009 and requires all vehicle users in the RMMA to complete a short education program and purchase a permit.</p>		

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
<b>DIRECT EXPENSES</b>							
<b>Program Expenses</b>							
1	<b>Staff</b>						
	Other-Administrative Staff	80.000	25.000	HRS	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
	Park Ranger	200.000	20.000	HRS	0.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
	Other-Law Enforcement Ranger	400.000	38.000	HRS	0.00	15,200.00	15,200.00
	Other-Outdoor Recreation Planner	500.000	30.000	HRS	5,000.00	10,000.00	15,000.00
	Other-Recreation Branch Chief	160.000	45.000	HRS	0.00	7,200.00	7,200.00
	Other-Field Office Manager	80.000	65.000	HRS	0.00	5,200.00	5,200.00
	Other-Volunteers (SCA, etc)	150.000	18.000	HRS	0.00	2,700.00	2,700.00

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009  
Agency: BLM - Ridgecrest Field Office  
Application: Education & Safety

6/2/2009

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	<b>Total for Staff</b>				5,000.00	46,300.00	51,300.00
<b>2</b>	<b>Contracts</b>						
<b>3</b>	<b>Materials / Supplies</b>						
	Other-Educational Booklets	5000.000	3.000	EA	15,000.00	0.00	15,000.00
	Other-Permits	10000.00 0	2.000	EA	20,000.00	0.00	20,000.00
	Other-map printing	10000.00 0	3.000	EA	30,000.00	0.00	30,000.00
	Other-Armbands	10000.00 0	4.000	EA	40,000.00	0.00	40,000.00
	<b>Total for Materials / Supplies</b>				105,000.00	0.00	105,000.00
<b>4</b>	<b>Equipment Use Expenses</b>						
<b>5</b>	<b>Equipment Purchases</b>						
	Other-Computer with Printer	1.000	1000.000	EA	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
<b>6</b>	<b>Others</b>						
	Other-Web Site programming	15000.00 0	1.000	MISC	15,000.00	0.00	15,000.00
<b>7</b>	<b>Administrative Costs</b>						
	Administrative Costs-10 Percent	1.000	12600.000	YR	0.00	12,600.00	12,600.00
	<b>Total Program Expenses</b>				126,000.00	58,900.00	184,900.00
	<b>TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES</b>				126,000.00	58,900.00	184,900.00
	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>				<b>126,000.00</b>	<b>58,900.00</b>	<b>184,900.00</b>

Project Cost Summary for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009  
 Agency: BLM - Ridgecrest Field Office  
 Application: Education & Safety

6/2/2009

	Line Item	Grant Request	Match	Total	Narrative
<b>DIRECT EXPENSES</b>					
<b>Program Expenses</b>					
1	Staff	5,000.00	46,300.00	51,300.00	
2	Contracts	0.00	0.00	0.00	
3	Materials / Supplies	105,000.00	0.00	105,000.00	
4	Equipment Use Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	
5	Equipment Purchases	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00	
6	Others	15,000.00	0.00	15,000.00	
7	Administrative Costs	0.00	12,600.00	12,600.00	
<b>Total Program Expenses</b>		126,000.00	58,900.00	184,900.00	
<b>TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES</b>		126,000.00	58,900.00	184,900.00	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>126,000.00</b>	<b>58,900.00</b>	<b>184,900.00</b>	

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**ITEM 1 and ITEM 2**

**ITEM 1**

- a. ITEM 1 - Has a CEQA Notice of Determination (NOD) been filed for the Project? ☐ Yes ☒ No  
(Please select Yes or No)

**ITEM 2**

- b. ITEM 2 - Are the proposed activities a "Project" under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378? ☐ Yes ☒ No  
(Please select Yes or No)
- c. The Application is requesting funds solely for personnel and support to enforce OHV laws and ensure public safety. These activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No
- d. Other. Explain why proposed activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. DO NOT complete ITEMS 3 – 9

The project is to educate the public solely through use of paper and computerized information, not through any "ground breaking" activities.

**ITEM 3 - Impact of this Project on Wetlands**

**ITEM 4 - Cumulative Impacts of this Project**

**ITEM 5 - Soil Impacts**

**ITEM 6 - Damage to Scenic Resources**

**ITEM 7 - Hazardous Materials**

Is the proposed Project Area located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code (hazardous materials)? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If YES, describe the location of the hazard relative to the Project site, the level of hazard and the measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the hazards.

**ITEM 8 - Potential for Adverse Impacts to Historical or Cultural Resources**

Would the proposed Project have potential for any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If YES, describe the potential impacts and for any substantially adverse changes in the significance of historical or cultural resources and measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the impacts.

**ITEM 9 - Indirect Significant Impacts**

**CEQA/NEPA Attachment**

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**1. Evaluation Criteria - Q 1.**

The Applicant is applying for the following type of Project: (Check the one most appropriate.) (Please select one from list)

- ☒ Education – Applicants shall only respond to items 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11  
☐ Safety – Applicants shall only respond to items 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 12, 13, 14, and 15

1. As calculated on the Project Cost Estimate, the percentage of the cost of the Project covered by the Applicant is 3

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ 76% or more (10 points) ☐ 51% - 75% (5 points)  
☒ 26% - 50% (3 points) ☐ 25% (Match minimum) (No points)

**2. Evaluation Criteria - Q 2.**

2. For Applicant's OHV Grant Projects which reached the end of the Project performance period within the last two years, the percentage of all deliverables accomplished 3

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ 100% of Deliverable accomplished (5 points)  
☒ 75% to 99% of Deliverables accomplished (3 points)  
☐ Less than 75% of Deliverables accomplished (No points)  
☐ First time Applicants and past Applicants with no active Grant projects within the last two years (2 points)

**3. Evaluation Criteria - Q 3. (FOR DIVISION USE ONLY)**

3. Previous Year Performance 3

(FOR DIVISION USE ONLY) (Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☒ In the previous year the Applicant has been responsive and communicated effectively with the assigned OHMVR Grant Administrator by phone, email or personal visit (3 points)  
☐ First time Applicants and past Applicants with no active Grant projects within the last two years (2 points)  
☐ In the previous year the Applicant has not been responsive (No points)

**4. Evaluation Criteria - Q 4.**

4. The Project will utilize partnerships to successfully accomplish the Project. The number of partner organizations that will participate in the Project are 4

(Check the one most appropriate.) (Please select one from list)

- ☒ 4 or more (4 points) ☐ 2 to 3 (2 points)  
☐ 1 (1 point) ☐ None (No points)

List partner organization(s)

Friends of Jawbone  
California City Police Department  
Kern County Board of Supervisors, District 1 and 2  
Desert Advisory Council  
Kern County Sheriff

**5. Evaluation Criteria - Q 5.**

5. The Project addresses the following types of OHV Recreation 5



(Check all that apply.) Scoring: 1 point each (Please select applicable values)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ATV  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4X4                              |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> M.C. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreation Utility Vehicle (RUV) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Snowmobile      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dune buggy, rail                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |  |

**6. Evaluation Criteria - Q 6.**

6. The Project was developed with public input employing the following 2

(Check all that apply) Scoring: 1 point each, up to a maximum of 2 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Meeting(s) with the general public to discuss Project (1 point)  
☐ Conference call(s) with interested parties (1 point)  
☒ Meeting(s) with stakeholders (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

A Technical Review Team was formed to provide public input to the BLM on planning and implementation issues related to the Rand Mountain Management Area. The team includes Kern County Supervisors, members of the Desert District Advisory Council, and BLM management. Members of stakeholder groups representing the recreation and environmental communities also provided insight and advice to the team. The project is also discussed regularly at the Ridgecrest Steering Committee Meeting and Friends of Jawbone Meeting, both of which members of the public are invited to attend.

**7. Evaluation Criteria - Q 7. (Education Project ONLY)**

7. The Project incorporates the following, clearly identifiable and/or measurable, elements 10

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Process of researching issues and audience (2 points)  
☒ Objectives (2 points)  
☒ Testing process to ensure actions are effective (2 points)  
☒ Plan to implement the Project (2 points)  
☒ Evaluation and feedback of the process (2 points)

**8. Evaluation Criteria - Q 8. (Education Project ONLY)**

8. Total number of points of contact the Project is anticipated to reach 4

(Check the one most appropriate.) (Please select one from list)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="radio"/> Greater than 10,000 (4 points) | <input type="radio"/> 1,000 to 10,000 (3 points) |
| <input type="radio"/> 100 to 1,000 (2 points)                   | <input type="radio"/> 20 to 100 (1 point)        |
| <input type="radio"/> 0 to 20 (No points)                       |  |

**9. Evaluation Criteria - Q 9. (Education Project ONLY)**

9. Total time a participant will have exposure to the Project's message or training 3

(Check the one item of highest point value that applies.) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ Greater than 2 hours (4 points)  
☒ 1 hour to 2 hours (3 points)  
☐ 5 minutes to less than 1 hour (2 points)  
☐ 1 minute to less than 5 minutes (A Project for maps will fall under this category) (1 point)  
☐ Less than 1 minute (No points)

**10. Evaluation Criteria - Q 10. (Education Project ONLY)**

10. The Project will utilize the following methods of education 14

(Check all that apply) Scoring: 2 point each up to a maximum of 14 points (Please select applicable values)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hands on training      | <input type="checkbox"/> Tool kits  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Handouts               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Events                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Internet messaging/CDs | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Signage                                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advertising            | <input type="checkbox"/> Radio/TV   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community involvement  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) [online education course] |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public relations/media            |   |

11. Evaluation Criteria - Q 11. (Education Project ONLY)

11. The Project provides direct support for delivery of ATV Safety Institute and/or Motorcycle Safety Foundation training 0

(Check the one most appropriate.) (Please select one from list)

- ☒ No (No points) ☐ Yes (2 points)

12. Evaluation Criteria - Q 12. & 13. (Safety Project ONLY)

12. The Project will utilize personnel trained to the following level

(Check the one most appropriate.) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ Emergency Medical Technician level, or higher (5 points) ☐ First Responder level (2 points)
- ☐ First Aid and CPR (1 points) ☐ No training (No points)

13. The Project will provide search and rescue as follows

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ 24 hours, 7 days per week (5 points) ☐ Less than 24 hours, 7 days per week (4 points)
- ☐ Less than 24 hours, less than 7 days per week (2 points) ☐ On special occasions/events only (No points)

13. Evaluation Criteria - Q 14. (Safety Project ONLY)

14. The Project will have the majority of personnel trained in the following areas

(Check all that apply) Scoring: 2 points each up to a maximum of 16 points (Please select applicable values)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Radio communication          | <input type="checkbox"/> Tracking skills          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Avalanche rescue             | <input type="checkbox"/> Navigation training      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Swift water rescue           | <input type="checkbox"/> ATV certification        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dog handling                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycle certification |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rope skills                  | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 x 4/Off-Road training  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wilderness search and rescue | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)          |

14. Evaluation Criteria - Q 15. (Safety Project ONLY)

15. The Project will have resources that are equipped and trained for rescue in the following environmental conditions\*

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- ☐ Type 1 – Extreme Condition (including but not limited to): Altitude (generally 7000 feet+) or Snow, Ice, Desert, Heat, Heavy ground cover, Steep difficult terrain. (2 points)
- ☐ Type 2 – Rugged Terrain. Rugged conditions, Altitude (generally under 7000 feet), Heat, Cold concerns, Moderate to heavy ground cover. (2 points)

- ☐ Type 3 – Moderate/Gentle Terrain. Gently rolling terrain, Open spaces, Maintained trailheads, and Agricultural areas. (2 points)
- ☐ Type 4 – Urban. High traffic, Urban office complexes, man-made surfaces, Public interaction and Park trails. (2 points)

**\* From the Governor's Office of Emergency Services – Mutual Aid Guidelines, Search and Rescue, Off-Highway Vehicles**